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Orchids still closer. When the pollinia are drawn out of their pockets they lie in the same plane, but in a short time twist about so as to be in parallel planes. In this position, what may be called the knees of the mass are turned to the side opposite to the groove, and present to the cleft of the stigma, when the insect alights, what was before the outer edges of the mass. When moistened with warm water, the pollinia resume their original position. This last experiment I made with the pollen of *A. Cornuti*, Decaisne.

W. H. L.

56. New Publications.—1. *Botany for Young People. PART II. How Plants Behave: How they Move, Climb, Employ Insects to Work for them, etc.* By Asa Gray. New York and Chicago: Ivison, Blake-man, Taylor & Co.

As the title, given in full, indicates, this little work brings together a class of facts constituting a new and most important chapter in Botany. It was time for the separate observations to be combined and the results introduced more directly to the student, and we are rejoiced to learn that Dr. Gray proposes a fuller statement of them. The book is attractive in form, and we hope may lure the young to our favorite study. To more mature minds, imbued with a love of Nature, it cannot fail to prove of great interest. We find a little obscure the brevity of the account of the insect fertilization of Iris, and venture to question the dictum that such plants as *Silene* and *Robinia viscosa* capture insects by accident.

2. *The Bee-Keeper's Magazine: an Illustrated Monthly.* H. A. King & Co., 14 Murray street, New York.

57. *Agave Americana*, L.—A fine specimen of the so-called Century-plant has been on exhibition in this city during the last month. The great heat seems to have hastened its blooming, so that we fear it may be too late for our readers to profit by this notice.

58. *Salices*.—We have omitted the continuation of the Catalogue this month, in order to make a final appeal for help with these Willows. We do not suppose that any one is free from doubts on this subject; but whoever has studied it at all must have determined some of the species described in Gray's Manual, or at least must have some specimens from our vicinity. We want every ray of light. In particular, we have no information about *S. humilis*, Marshall; *S. purpurea*, L.; *S. viminalis*, L.; *S. cordata*, Muhl.; the varieties of *S. fragilis* and *S. alba*, L.; *S. longifolia*, Muhl. Doubtless some or all of these species are to be found hereabouts. No genus of plants is more puzzling, and very good service may be rendered to science in this direction.

59. *Pinus Elliottii*, Engelm.—Mr. H. W. Ravenel has kindly sent us additional specimens (which we have placed in Dr. Torrey's herbarium), and writes: "You will observe the early recurving of the young cones, which seems to be characteristic of the species. Dr. Mellichamp, of Bluffton, S. C., near the sea-coast, from whom I received them, says in his letter of April 30th—'Some weeks ago the young cones were standing off like the arms of a cross, the whole

outline of the tree presenting these innumerable little crosses against the sky, but now they are all turned downwards.' It thus appears that in this species the young cones recurve a few weeks after flowering. In *P. glabra*, Walt., this takes place during the first summer's growth, as I have specimens collected in November, with the spring fruit recurved. In some species they remain erect or at right angles, and in others recurve at the beginning of growth of the second season. This peculiarity is worthy of more attention, as it may furnish important specific characters.

"I enclose also a sprig of *P. glabra*, exhibiting the true leaves very finely. You will observe that, while the true leaves are unusually well developed, the phylloid shoots are mostly wanting in their axils, and that the leaves are finely serrulate, while the phylloids are smooth and have entire margins.

"I also send some fruit of the very rare and curious *Carya myristicæformis*, Mch., found in swamps in the seaboard districts of this State."

60. *Hottonia inflata*, Ell.—I have recently found this rather rare plant in such quantities, and so near New York, as perhaps to render the locality worthy of record. It grows by the roadside, about a mile east of Woodridge Station, on the Hackensack branch of the Erie R. R. The ditch is completely covered with it for several rods in length. Near it is also found *Glyceria acutiflora*, Torr., in abundance.

Bromus sterilis, L., is very abundant about cultivated grounds near Passaic, N. J., and in timber lands *Asclepias quadrifolia*, Jacq., together with *A. phytolacoides*, Pursh. *Chamælririum luteum*, Gray, grows between Hackensack and Lodi, N. J., though not plentiful.

I found this spring, on Todt Hill, Staten Island, a white variety of *Silene Pennsylvanica*, Mchx. All the plants I found had white flowers.

G. C. W.

245, Broadway.

61. *Broussonetia*.—A few days since, walking down through the Park, between 10 and 11 o'clock A. M., I saw numbers of *Broussonetia* trees, in full flower, very cloudy with exsusive puffs of pollen, as noticed by Prof. Martin in a last year's number of the BULLETIN. I picked up a catkin, just blown off by the wind, and some puffs appeared as I held it in my hand.

I. H. H.

June 3d.

62. New Localities.—*Mentha aquatica*, L., var. *crispa*, Benth., at Tarrytown. *Geranium Robertianum*, L., in the cedar groves on Rockaway Beach, W. H. L. *Ægopodium podagraria*, L., waste places, Prospect Park, Merriam.

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Local Herbarium, 3, E. 33d St.—Editor, 224, E. 10th St.

The Club meets regularly the last Tuesday of the month in the Herbarium, Columbia College, at 7½ P.M.